

Prince Eugene and the Cinder Queen

By
Mickey Wright

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STORY OF THE PLAY

Here's the Cinderella story retold, with a little help from above! Overworked and derided by her stepmother and three stepsisters, kindhearted Cinderella can only dream of attending a ball at the castle. Suddenly her Angel Godmother appears, but she almost blows the whole fairy tale before the Godfather rushes to the rescue on his Zucchini 500. (There's a shortage of pumpkins!) Prince Eugene dreams of finding an honest girl, but his eccentric fans make a nightmare of his party. His only hope is the sweet young woman who isn't afraid to state her own thoughts. But with a midnight deadline, she eludes him, leaving behind a foot pad from her fancy dancing slippers. The Prince directs his men, with foot pad in hand, to sniff her out. Maybe dreams do come true - in their own unimaginable way. A delightful audience-participation spoof!

About an hour.

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

This play, under the title CINDERELLA - THE COMEDY, was first produced by Cornerstone Christian School Drama Department on April 7 and 11, 1989. Working with director Mickey Wright the cast included: Carisa Boshoff, Laurel Lafayette, Amy Greason, Jamie Siefert, Mary Boardman, Tami Carter, John Boardman, Ty Condon, Marc Marshall, Ed Flores, Kiffany Hoover, Kandi Mills, Bethany Liljegren, Debbie Reitz, Wendy Parker, Melissa Van Breemen, Tony Gjessing, Tony Fuchs, and Justin Stills. Lights, sound, and special effects were handled by Mark Roedel, Pat McGauly, Frank Monteleone, and Carla Bagley.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(Approx. 3 males, 7 females, 1 flexible, extras.)

CINDERELLA

STEPMOTHER: Mean, demanding.

ZAPPY: Stepsister. Nasal voice, snobby. (Doubles as Girl 1.)

GIDDY: Stepsister. Large, clumsy, prissy. (Doubles as Girl 2.)

MAY: Stepsister. Awkward, pigeon-toed. (Doubles as Girl 3.)

ZELDA: Screaming, scheming fan of the Prince.

ANGEL GODMOTHER

ANGEL GODFATHER VIRGIL

PRINCE EUGENE

DUKE OF MUDDINGTON

PRIME MINISTER: (May be male or female.)

LORDS AND LADIES OF THE COURT

CASTING NOTES

GIDDY is a large girl, but very prissy. She should be well-padded. Casting a boy in her part or in the parts of the other sisters may multiply the hilarity. If you'd like to cast more actors, do not double the roles of Girls 1-3.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This show invites audience participation. As characters encourage the audience to help there is room for ad lib according to the age, size, and response of an audience. Players will find this a perfect opportunity to develop and apply improvisation skills. Each performance becomes as unique as the character of each audience.

- M.W.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

SCENE 1: Alley. Night.

In search of an honest girl, Prince Eugene conceals himself in the streets. He meets a servant girl who impresses him, but she is chased away by the Prince's eccentric fans.

SCENE 2: Cinderella's house. The evening of the party.

Cinderella's stepmother and stepsisters destroy Cinderella's gown so that she cannot go to the Prince's party. After they leave, Cinderella prays for a happy family. Her Angel Godmother and Godfather bring a new gown and, after several setbacks, turn a zucchini into a motorcycle that transports them to the party.

SCENE 3: Palace Ballroom. Same evening.

The stepsisters and other ladies bore the Prince. As he leaves the party he meets Cinderella who, unlike the other girls, is honest. She thinks he's a butler and he thinks she's a princess, and both enjoy the dance. After she escapes at midnight the Prince finds an orthopedic foot pad which she left behind. He vows to sniff her out in the kingdom - and maybe ask her out, too.

SCENE 4: Cinderella's house. After midnight.

Cinderella and the Godfather arrive home just before the stepmother and stepsisters. When the ladies enter, the Godfather pretends he is Cinderella to stall them.

SCENE 5: Cinderella's house. The next day.

The Duke and Prime Minister search for the foot that smells like the foot pad. Despite the stepmother's deceptive attempts they leave the house without finding the Prince's love.

SCENE 6: Alley. Later that evening.

The stepmother hides Cinderella and destroys her footpads. But the Angel Godparents bring the Prince and Cinderella together in a dreams-come-true-however-strangely ending.

SCENE 1

(AT RISE: A dim alley. Large trash can in front of brick wall. A SCREAM from offstage. Several GIRLS rush in, searching the street. They are excited, winded. ZELDA, wildly overdressed, leads them.)

GIRL ONE: Does anybody see him?

GIRL TWO: I saw him come this way, I know it.

ZELDA: Why don't we split up?

GIRL THREE: Sure. So you can find him by yourself.

ZELDA: I'd let you girls know.

GIRL TWO: Yeah, you'd send us a postcard while on your honeymoon.

GIRL THREE: I saw something! *(Points.)* Over there.

GIRL ONE: *(Scream.)* It's the Prince!

GIRL THREE: I saw him first!

ZELDA: *(Pushes THEM back.)* Out of my way. He's mine!

(ZELDA runs off and THEY follow. Silence. The trash can moves. The lid slowly rises. Out climbs the PRINCE wearing a hat and dark glasses. He brushes himself off and removes a banana peel from his shoulder. Looking around, he removes his glasses and hat. He notices the audience.)

PRINCE: *(To audience.)* What are you laughing at? You think it's easy being a prince? A single prince? A prince whose father the king says, *(Imitates his father.)* "Get married or get a job. You gotta perpetuate the throne." And he puts an ad in the kingdom news: "Available: One hunk of a prince." And to top it all off, I have to be the most handsome dude in the kingdom. Hey, it's not that I'm against marriage. I like girls. It's just - finding the right one. You know what I really want? An honest girl. That's all. Somebody who doesn't pretend that she's somebody she's not when she's really somebody else who thinks she's not who she really is because she thinks I'm somebody I'm not because I'm the Prince. Know what I mean?

(The GIRLS scream offstage. HE looks heavenward.)

PRINCE: *(Cont'd.)* Just send me an honest girl, okay? You said that every good and perfect gift comes from above. So I'm waiting. She doesn't have to be perfect, but at least make her good - and honest.

(Another SCREAM and VOICES offstage. HE looks for a place to hide. Finding a tattered coat and hat in the trash can, he puts them on. He sits on the ground against the brick wall and covers his head with a newspaper. CINDERELLA enters, ragged dress, carrying a bag and licking a peppermint stick. She stops, sighs over the peppermint and moves toward the trash can. Not seeing the Prince she accidentally kicks him.)

CINDERELLA: Oh, I'm sorry. Did I hurt you? *(Pulls the newspaper off. PRINCE shakes his head, keeps face lowered.)* Are you all right? What are you doing out here? *(Shakes his head.)* I'm really sorry. I just wanted to throw this in the - would you like a peppermint stick? I can break off the part I licked.

(HE looks up at HER, puzzled. She breaks the peppermint and hands it to him.)

PRINCE: *(Gruff voice.)* Why don't you want it?

CINDERELLA: Oh, I want it - very much. It's just that I'm not allowed to have it, so I have to finish it before I get home - or throw it away.

PRINCE: Not allowed?

CINDERELLA: You look hungry. I've got some fresh bread. I could give you a pinch, but no more. She counts the slices. *(Digging in the bag SHE pulls out a slice of bread and gives it to HIM.)*

PRINCE: Who is she?

(ZELDA enters with GIRLS, sees Cinderella.)

End of Freeview

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